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**Montana Department of Commerce Awards \$216,000 in
Funding to Butte-Silver Bow for Masters Group International**

(HELENA) – The Montana Department of Commerce has awarded \$216,000 in funding from the Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) Program to Butte-Silver Bow County. The County will loan the funding to office product manufacturer Masters Group International, for the purchase of machinery and equipment.

“Assisting Masters will provide employment opportunities for Butte’s local job force,” said Governor Brian Schweitzer. “The distribution center will create at least 63 jobs in Butte. Funding this project makes good economic sense for Butte America and its surrounding communities.”

“We are pleased to help Butte assist Masters as it develops its operations in a location that will serve a large distribution region,” said Anthony Preite, Director of the Montana Department of Commerce. “This funding equals good paying jobs, for the hardworking people of Butte.”

The funding will help Masters Group International set up a distribution center and office in Butte that will initially create at least 18 new jobs. Butte Local Development Corporation will assist with the administration of the project.

Montana's Community Development Block Grant – Economic Development (CDBG-ED) program is designed to stimulate economic development activity by assisting

Montana's private sector in job creation or retention for low and moderate income persons.

The CDBG-ED program receives funding from the Community Development Block Grant program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the Economic Development Administration.

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